

A Transmitter with a Remote Unit in an Electric Net Data Transmission System

The invention is suited for use in electric nets, for instance 12 VAC/DC, 24 VAC/DC, 48 VAC/DC, 115 VAC, 400 VAC, to prevent the level from getting lower of a signal, sent by a transmitter of a data transmitting system in a said net, with small values of load impedance Z_{LOAD} (in voltage rail) and with great values of the equivalent series impedance Z_W of the electric net cable (long connecting cable to electric net, that is the data transmission distance). By means of a method as per the invention and the structure of the transmitter it is possible to keep the signal U_{LOAD} sent by the transmitter large enough in the voltage rail of the load impedance Z_{LOAD} even if there were from the transmitting apparatus to the electric net voltage rail a distance of tens of or even over hundred meters. Without the method reliable operation under above conditions would be occasionally impossible, because of a too low transmission signal.

Generally in traditional solutions there are two problems:

- 1) The level of transmission signal gets strongly lower, when the net impedance is quite low.
- 2) For instance, in transmitting situation no signal high enough can be achieved between 230 V 50 Hz phase and zero rail (L-N) of the electric net, since energy consuming apparatuses cause on the signal frequency a quite a strong load, i.e. low load impedance Z_{LOAD} . This is influenced by the fact that there is from the transmitting apparatus a long cable connection (the equivalent series impedance Z_W of the cable is high on signal frequency) to above phase and zero rail. According to the principle of voltage distribution the U_{LOAD} is then low, i.e. the situation is bad. Figure 1 shows the attenuation impact of the cable in a traditional solution, when the $Z_{LOAD} = 1 \text{ ohm}$.

In the more developed modern techniques the problem presented in pos. 1) is already solved so that the outgoing signal of the transmitter remains almost constant, i.e. independent of the net impedance. However, it doesn't be of any help on resolving the problem of pos. 2), because of the series impedance Z_W of the connecting cable of the apparatus and/or the cable and of the low load impedance Z_{LOAD} between phase and zero rail in the electric net. There is a surprisingly good solution to the problem in this invention, where the impact of attenuation on the signal of the series impedance Z_W of the connecting cable is eliminated almost completely.

Figure 2 shows the impact of attenuation the cable in the invention, when the Z_{LOAD} is 1 ohm.

In transmitting situation it is decisive that for instance the "rail signal" U_{LOAD} of the fuse box of an apartment, which is the signal voltage between phase rail L and zero rail N in fuse box U_{L-N} , is as high as possible even with low Z_{LOAD} values of the load impedance.

The apparatus as per the invention is characterized in that the equipment is divided into two or several parts, at least in a first part (3) and a second part (TX/REMU), whereby the second part (TX/REMU) includes at least a connecting unit (50) for connection to the electric net and a connecting cable for connection of said part to the electric net, whereby the length L_w of the connecting cable is under 5 meters.

The invention is based on that an apparatus operating in the electric net is in a way divided into two parts, of which the first part comprises most suitably the equipment to form and adjust the signal and the second part comprises a transmitter a remote unit, hereafter called TX/REMU. The transmitter remote unit TX/REMU is placed as close as possible to the wall outlet of an electric net 230 V, 50 Hz or to a phase and zero rail for instance in a fuse box. The length of the connecting cable is held as small as possible, e.g. L_w is under 5 meters or more suitably under 3 meters or even under 1 meter, as shown in figure 4. Possibly the transmitter remote unit TX/REMU can be placed in the voltage rail or even plugged in a wall outlet, if regulations allow. Then there is no connecting cable and the L_w is 0 meter. The first part of the apparatus can be placed even far from the remote unit, the distance can be tens or even hundreds of meters. On the other hand the first part can be placed also close to the remote unit, even as a common unit with the remote unit.

The invention is disclosed with reference to the enclosed drawing figures, where

Fig. 1 shows the attenuation impact of the cable in a traditional solution, when the Z_{LOAD} is 1 ohm.

Fig. 2 shows the attenuation impact of the cable in the invention, when the Z_{LOAD} is 1 ohm.

Fig. 3 shows a simple application of the invention.

Fig. 4 shows an effective application of the invention.

The transmitter remote unit TX/REMU gets the steering of its operation over the signal cable from the first part of the bipartitioned apparatus. The length L_s of the signal cable can be tens and even hundreds of meters and has no impact on the size of the "rail signal" U_{LOAD} , which is to be

transmitted to the electric net. Refer figures 2 and 4. The first part 3 and second part TX/REMU can be connected also wirelessly with an optical fibre cable or otherwise.

The transmitter remote unit TX/REMU is located for instance in a living room or in the main electric centre just beside the fuse box (fuses and phase rail and zero rail and switch) or in connection with it in its own box or in a wall outlet or near it. A cable comes to it from the fuse box rails over the fuse or from the wall outlet and, in addition, the signal cable from the first part of the apparatus, where generally the operation lights and switches are located.

The transmitter remote unit TX/REMU contains for instance a signal amplifier 20 (e.g. 95-125 kHz) low pass filter or band pass filter 40, but in any case it contains a field unit connecting unit 50 for connection to the electric net. In addition, the remote unit TX/REMU can contain many other operation blocks and functions. It can also have a mains transformer and a voltage regulator.

The first part 3 of the apparatus can for instance in an apartment be placed in the signal cable end, even in a living room. Generally it includes the signal lights and operating switches and other operating switches and other operation means of the apparatus.

Fig. 3 shows a simple application of the invention and figure 4 a more efficient application of the invention.

The second part, remote unit TX/REMU, of the transmitter must be as to its mechanics as small as possible and suitably shaped, so that it could be utilized appropriately in the main electric centre of an apartment house or in the kWh-meter closet, for instance. There is not often much place available. The connecting cable taken to the phase and zero rail L, N or to a wall outlet must be as short as possible (e.g. L_w = under 1 m). Regulations restricting the assembly must be taken into consideration.